

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 70**

**INCIDENT NO. 97-015**

**DATE: November 6, 1997      TIME: 12:00 p.m.**

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring flood statewide.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: The level of Devils Lake at Creel Bay was at 1,442.56 feet MSL on November 5, a 0.03-foot increase during the past two weeks.
4. RESOURCES:  
  
LOCAL: No change from previous reports.  
  
STATE: No change from previous reports.  
  
FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: The North Dakota Community Foundation's 1997 flood relief fund advisory committee recently awarded a total of \$354,826 in grants to 12 Red River Valley organizations. These latest grants bring the Foundation's total flood grants to nearly \$1.8 million. Through these grants and other flood relief efforts, the Foundation has provided over \$3 million to the Red River Valley.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Governor Schafer signed an Executive Order on October 31 to extend the waiver of state bidding requirements for the city of Grand Forks through November 28. This spring, the Governor issued an Executive Order relaxing bidding rules on flood-recovery projects.

North Dakota Emergency Management continues the risk assessment of selected areas in North Dakota in order to assist local authorities to identify and implement mitigation measures for a possible 1998 flood event.

A N.D. National Guard State Active Duty activity to support the Grand Forks Gospel Mission has been extended through November 15. Since June 13, National Guard and Mission employees have been using the kitchen facility at the Grand Forks Armory to prepare meals for Mission clients. The mission's kitchen facility, damaged during the spring flood, is under repair.

Other flood recovery work by the National Guard includes winterizing and storing 500 travel trailers used by flood survivors. That mission began on September 2.

The National Guard conducted a Military Support to Civil Authorities Workshop on November 1 in Bismarck. Presenters included North Dakota Emergency Management staff and senior military leaders for the National Guard, Reserves and Active Components located in North Dakota. Topics

discussed were each organization's capabilities and responsibilities to civil authorities during a local, state or federal disaster or emergency.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) staff members are meeting in November with Emergency Management staff and officials from selected North Dakota communities to discuss levels of preparedness for potential flooding next spring.

To date, 24,474 awards have been approved for nearly \$53.3 million in Disaster Housing assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The Individual and Family Grant Program (IFGP), administered by the North Dakota Emergency Management, has approved more than \$13.7 million in grants to individuals for flood losses. The average IFGP grant is \$1,320. The staff has closed 22,972 cases, which continues to represent 99 percent of the cases. Cases remaining open total 107.

As of November 5, the Public Assistance staff had received 3,805 Damage Survey Reports (DSRs) and has obligated funds for 3,416 DSRs. Survey work has been completed for 371 applicants for the 1997 flood. Nearly \$111 million in infrastructure repairs, emergency work and debris removal has been determined to be eligible in the declared counties. Seven state Public Assistance inspectors continue to work.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved to date more than \$176 million in low-interest loans for businesses and individuals. The SBA has received 11,633 loan applications, 6,857 of which have been approved. Of the loans, 55 percent were to home owners and renters for real estate and personal property losses, and 45 percent were to business owners for repairs to businesses and for lost income.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: Other web site addresses for flood recovery information include:

N.D. Division of Emergency Management: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>  
N.D. League of Cities: <http://www.ndlc.org>  
N.D. State Water Commission: <http://water.swc.state.nd.us>  
N.D. Attorney General Office: <http://www.state.nd.us/ndag>  
N.D. Department of Agriculture: <http://www.state.nd.us/agr/>  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: <http://www.ncs-wc.usace.army.mil>  
U.S. Geological Survey: <http://srv1dndbmk.cr.usgs.gov/public/index.html>

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director